



Town of Wallingford, Connecticut

Government Access Television

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Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington D.C. 20554

RE: Petitions for Declaratory Ruling Regarding Public, Educational and Governmental Access Channels, MB Docket No. 09-13, CSR 8126 (ACM et al.), CRS 8127 (City of Lansing, MI), and CSR 8128 (City of Dearborn, MI et al.)

Dear Commissioner:

The Alliance for Community Media and a coalition of community media groups, municipalities and regional organizations recently filed a Petition for Declaratory Ruling regarding the treatment of local public, educational and governmental access ("PEG") channels on the AT&T U-verse multichannel video system. As a member of the Alliance for Community Media, the Town of Wallingford ("Town") supports the petition.

We believe that PEG access is required by law to be offered to subscribers with the equivalent quality and functionality as local broadcast channels on multichannel video systems. It is important that the provisions of the law be upheld and enforced. The residents of our town have come to rely on the local PEG channels for vital information that is not offered by newspapers, radio stations, or broadcast television.

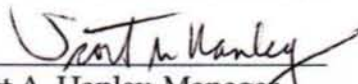
The Town also supports a separate Petition for Declaratory Ruling filed by a group of Michigan cities led by the City of Dearborn. The petition asks for relief concerning Comcast's plan to digitize PEG channels, requiring basic service subscribers to pay more just to continue to receive PEG channels. In Connecticut, we have already witnessed several attempts by cable operators to relocate PEG channels from the basic tier or to channels of marginal signal quality. These practices are contrary to law and Congress' intent of preserving localism through PEG operations.

The Town of Wallingford commends the FCC for permitting comment on this important issue. We encourage the FCC to grant the Alliance's Petition and Dearborn's Petition.

Respectfully submitted,

TOWN OF WALLINGFORD

By:


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